Abstract

The invention provides a two-phase hash value matching technique in message protection systems. This invention further improves the performance of message protection systems by avoiding computations associated with sophisticated

5   signature hash value (SSHV) where possible. A message protection system that implements the two-phase hash value matching technique caches rough outline hash values (ROHVs) of previously scanned objects. The system can roughly distinguish one object from another using ROHVs. The system performs an initial check using ROHVs before performing the relatively time-consuming computations associated with SSHVs.

10